

Office Action Summary**Application No.**

10/584,254

Applicant(s)

TAKADA, AKINARI

Examiner

KIET DOAN

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 8-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 June 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/29/08, 06/23/06
- 4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/26/08
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claims 1, 3, 11 and 15 the phrase "second-synchronization detecting unit" is unclear since there is no indication of a first-synchronization detecting unit that hence making the claims indefinite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 8-13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishii (US 6,728,533 B2) in view of Aoshima (US 6,192,007 B1).

Consider **claims 1, 3, 11 and 15**. Ishii teaches a radio controlled timepiece comprising:

a clocking unit configured to clock a time (Col. 3, lines 30-31 teach mobile phone contain clock 18),

a display unit configured to display a time based on clock information from the clocking unit (Col.3, line 31).

a receiving unit configured to receive standard radio waves from transmitting stations in at least two countries or regions (Col. 3, lines 40-45 teach base station 1 and base station 2 transmitting in different regions time). Ishii **fails to explicitly teach**

a second-synchronization detecting unit configured to detect second-synchronization information from a demodulated signal obtained by the receiving unit;

a transmitting station determining unit configured to analyze the demodulated signal based on the second-synchronization information to determine a transmitting station in a country or a region; and

a decoding unit configured to decode information included in the standard radio wave from the transmitting station determined by the transmitting station determining unit to obtain time information, wherein

the clock information of the clocking unit is corrected based on the time information obtained by the decoding unit.

In an analogous art, **Aoshima teaches** a second-synchronization detecting unit configured to detect second-synchronization information from a demodulated signal obtained by the receiving unit (Abstract, Col.8, lines 30-33, Fig.1, No.3 as read on second-synchronization detecting unit);

a transmitting station determining unit configured to analyze the demodulated signal based on the second-synchronization information to determine a transmitting station in a country or a region (Col.8, lines 65-67, Col.9, lines 1-4); and

a decoding unit configured to decode information included in the standard radio wave from the transmitting station determined by the transmitting station determining unit to obtain time information (Col.8, lines 50-61, Col.9, lines 16-20, Fig.1 show decoding section 4 and read on decoding unit), wherein

the clock information of the clocking unit is corrected based on the time information obtained by the decoding unit (Col.1, lines52-52, Col.11, lines 20-33).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time that the invention was made to modify Ishii with Aoshima's system such that displaying correct clock when the device receiving radio wave in different regions in order to improve the mobile device received correct time when travel to different regions.

Consider **claim 8**. The combination of Ishii and Aoshima teach the radio controlled timepiece according to claim 1. Further, Aoshima teaches wherein the transmitting station determining unit is configured to analyze the demodulated signal based on the second-synchronization information to determine the transmitting station in the country or region from a waveform of a position marker appearing in a constant cycle (Col.8, lines 65-67, Col.9, lines 1-20).

Consider **claim 9**. The combination of Ishii and Aoshima teach the radio controlled timepiece according to claim 1. Further, Aoshima teaches wherein the transmitting station determining unit is configured to analyze the demodulated signal based on the second-synchronization information to determine the transmitting station

in the country or region based on a particular waveform of the demodulated signal (Col.10, lines 17-42).

Consider **claim 10**. The combination of Ishii and Aoshima teach the radio controlled timepiece according to claim 1. Further, Aoshima teach wherein the second-synchronization detecting unit is configured to prioritize an order in determination of the transmitting station by the transmitting station determining unit based on the detected second-synchronization information (Col.8, lines 50-55, Coll. 10, lines 25-40).

Consider **claim 12**. The combination of Ishii and Aoshima teach the radio controlled timepiece according to claim 1. Further, Ishii teaches wherein the receiving unit is configured to receive a standard radio wave of a transmitting station from which a standard radio wave is successfully received in last reception, first. (Col. 2, lines 22-29).

Consider **claim 13**. The combination of Ishii and Aoshima teach the radio controlled timepiece according to claim 1. Further, Aoshima teach wherein the receiving unit includes a storing unit configured to store information on a transmitting station for which reception has succeeded before, and configured to determine an order of switching based on the information on the transmitting station stored in the storing unit (Col.8, lines 39-45, Col.9, lines 22-33).

5. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishii (US 6,728,533 B2) in view of Aoshima (US 6,192,007 B1) and further view of Roberts, Jr. (US 6,223,050 B1).

Consider **claim 14**. The combination of Ishii and Aoshima teach according to claim 1, **but is silent on** an electronic device comprising the radio controlled timepiece.

In an analogous art, **Roberts teaches** an electronic device comprising the radio controlled timepiece (title, Col.5, lines 9-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time that the invention was made to modify Ishii and Aoshima with Roberts's system such that an electronic device comprising the radio controlled timepiece in order to improve the exact/accurate time.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 2-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KIET DOAN whose telephone number is (571)272-7863. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Appiah N. Charles can be reached on 571-272-7904. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kiet Doan/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

**/Charles N. Appiah/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617**